

Claims

1. A seamless ventilation duct including integrally formed hinge means to enable the duct to be collapsed for transportation and/or storage.
5
2. A seamless ventilation duct according to claim 1, comprising a plurality of elongate panels, each panel being joined to an adjacent panel by the integrally formed hinge means to enable relative movement between said panels.
- 10 3. A seamless ventilation duct according to claim 2, wherein said hinge means comprises an elongate channel in the duct between each panel so that the duct folds in the region of the channel to enable relative movement between the panels.
- 15 4. A seamless ventilation duct according to claim 2 or 3, wherein each panel is disposed substantially at right angles to two adjacent panels when the duct is erected.
5. A seamless ventilation duct according to claim 4, wherein each panel is rigid or semi-rigid and forms one side-wall of the duct.
20
6. A seamless ventilation duct according to claim 5, wherein each side wall lies substantially in contact with another side-wall when the duct is collapsed.
- 25 7. A seamless ventilation duct according to claim 5 or 6, wherein the side walls define a parallelogram or other multi-sided profile in cross-section.
8. A seamless ventilation duct according to any preceding claim, wherein the hinge means are formed from a dissimilar material to the side walls.
- 30 9. A seamless ventilation duct according to any preceding claim, wherein the duct is made from plastics material.

10. A seamless ventilation duct according to claim 9, wherein the duct is made from thermoplastic or thermoplastic elastomer.

11. A seamless ventilation duct according to claim 9, wherein the duct is made
5 from polypropylene or PVC.

12. A seamless ventilation duct according to any preceding claim formed by extrusion.

10 13. A seamless ventilation duct substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

14. A method of manufacturing a seamless ventilation duct including integrally formed hinge means comprising the steps of extruding or moulding the duct,
15 allowing the duct to cool and folding the duct about the hinge means to collapse it for transportation or storage or erect it for installation.

15. A method according to claim 13, wherein the duct is extruded in a collapsed condition.

20

16. A method according to claim 14, wherein the duct is extruded in a partially erect or erect condition.

17. A method of manufacturing a seamless ventilation duct, wherein the hinge
25 means are extruded from a different material to the rest of the duct.

18. A method of manufacturing a seamless ventilation duct substantially as hereinbefore described.